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ABSTRACT

This paper, from the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, describes a new kind of transfer student that is putting pressure on four-year and two-year institutions: the job-preparatory student with dual goals of job preparation and transfer. The author presents strategies related to articulation agreements (statewide and local) and discusses developments related to the new bachelor's degree. Four bachelor's degree options exist in Washington. Two are traditional, the bachelor of arts and the bachelor's of science. Two newer and non-traditional degrees are the bachelor's of applied science and the bachelor's of technology, which both build from a technical associate degree. Nearly every technical field has at least one local transfer agreement. Strategies for successful articulation agreements include: (1) ensuring faculty review at both institutions; (2) stating the number of credits and specific courses to be accepted in the general education requirements; (3) identifying number of credits and, if possible, specific courses required after transfer; (4) having the registrar's office at the receiving institution review the agreement; and (5) securing the signatures of several administrators/faculty members at each institution. Two tables are included that illustrate baccalaureate options at specific institutions. (EMH)

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The New Transfer Student: Students Completing Job Preparatory Programs with a Transfer Goal

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The New Transfer Student - Students Completing Job Preparatory Programs With A Transfer Goal

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Prepared for the Transfer: The Forgotten Function Conference, July, 2001

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A new kind of transfer students is emerging - the job preparatory student with dual goals- job preparation and transfer. Across the country this new type of transfer student is putting pressures on four-year and two-year institutions alike. This paper describes the:

1) Strategies related to articulation agreements (statewide and local agreements) and the number and nature of the agreements
2) Ever evolving developments related to the new bachelor's degree and who will offer them (community or technical colleges, public four-year institutions, independent four-year institutions, for-profit degree granting institutions).

Transfer in Washington State:

Each year about 12,500 student transition to the four-year sector. More than a third of all the 24,000 bachelor's degrees are awarded to students with significant credits from the community and technical colleges.

Four bachelor's degree options exist in Washington.[1] Two are traditional in Washington State – the Bachelor's of Arts and the Bachelor's of Science. Those preparing to be teachers, for example, typically complete the Bachelor's of Arts degree. Engineers complete the Bachelor's of Science. Two newer, and thus non-traditional, degrees are the Bachelor's of Applied Science or the Bachelor's of Technology. Both degrees are designed to fill the need for the tech-savvy conceptual thinker. Both build from a technical associate degree.

Strengths – Liberal Arts, Science and Engineering Transfer: The state is well positioned to respond to the growing demand for transfer students seeking a Bachelor's of Arts degree in most liberal arts fields. Our strength comes from the 30-year tradition of the Direct Transfer Agreement (DTA) guaranteeing junior status for transfer students. Not only are students ready to move into the major at after transfer with general education requirements completed, but public four-year institution put a priority on accepting DTA students with an appropriate GPA. Thus the transfer process works well for these students. About half of all transfer students have completed the DTA and thus take advantage of the benefits of the DTA statewide articulation agreement.

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[1] A small number of students complete a bachelor's of fine arts.

A recently negotiated transfer agreement for the Bachelor's of Science will also likely position the state to respond well to growing transfer demand in the sciences and engineering related fields. This agreement is based on the new Associate of Science-Transfer degree awarded to 50 students at 13 institutions for the first time in this year (2000-01).

Teacher Education: Washington State has no specific transfer path to the bachelor's degrees and certification required of future teachers. This is a common, but changing pattern elsewhere. Maryland, for example, recently approved the AAT Degree (Associate of Arts in Teaching). This is a program that is fully articulated with our 4-year public institutions that offer a Teaching Degree. It is not clear if such a degree is needed in Washington, but the question is currently under study by a group representing the 4-year public teacher education programs and the community college administrators and faculty.

Technical Degrees: Each year about 250 students with technical degrees transfer to four-year institutions in the state. Many transfer under local program-to-program articulation agreements, but increasingly students have a new option of transfer to degrees specifically designed for them. These transfer students currently major in fairly traditional fields: Associate Degree Nursing, criminal justice, and social services. However, an increasing number of information technology technical graduates are transferring as well.

The Bachelor's of Applied Science or the Bachelor's of Technology are fairly new degree options throughout the US. The Bachelor's of Applied Science is typically designed only for students who have already completed technical degrees at a technical or community college. Students complete the bachelor's degree by taking a) general education courses liberal arts, and b) a minor in some typically broad area of specialty such as organizational behavior. The specialty various based on the strength of the 4-year institution.

Two long-standing degree options in Washington follow the Bachelor's of Applied Science (BAS) model, though neither uses that naming convention:

- Upside Down Degree, The Evergreen State College (377 articulation agreements)
- Bachelor's of Liberal Studies, Upside Down Degree, Whitworth (Spokane)

This fall two more BAS options will become available to technical degree graduates:

- Bachelor of Science in Management (BS/M), University of Phoenix
- B.A. or B.S. in Professional Studies Program, Seattle Pacific University

The Bachelor's of Technology is an applied baccalaureate that offers specialized, technical training for students in areas such as computer network management or web design. It serves a career ladder approach from the two-year to the four-year degree in the same technical field. Generally the degree is based on an inverted curriculum model

with the technical, applied training received during the associate's degree with two more years of general core curriculum and advanced technical coursework to follow. It typically includes courses from a technical associate degree as part of the major in the bachelor's degree. Many bachelor's of technology degrees exist or are under construction in Washington. Most are based on individual articulation agreements between two institutions and involve the transfer of a small number of students annually. Several degree options are now or likely will become statewide in the near future:

- BS in Information Systems, City University
- Computing and Software Systems, UW-T (articulation agreements with only two technical degree programs at present, but goal is to expand to all 12 feeder colleges including Bates and Clover Park)
- BS in Human Development, WSU (an on-line degree) with articulation work in progress with all or most of the college Early Childhood Education technical degrees.

Strategies related to articulation agreements

The number and diversity of local transfer agreements is astounding. Nearly every technical field has at least one local agreement. The nature of the agreements (who signs, what is agreed to, etc.) varies greatly. In responses a "best practices" approach to agreements is currently under review. The draft program-to-program articulation documents are available on line the web address given above. It has been agreed that such agreements require:

- Faculty review at both institutions
- Number of credits and specific courses to be accepted, role in the major, in the general education requirements
- Number of credits and if possible specific courses required after transfer
- Review by the registrar's office at the receiving institution
- Signatures of at several at each institution including at least one administrator

Simultaneous with the work on program-to-program agreements, is an effort to modify the nature of the technical degrees to assure the "transferable" technical degree includes college-level general education classes. Regional accreditation requirements allow as little as 9 quarter credits of "related instruction" courses in a technical degree. These courses may be below the college-level. The proposed transferable technical degree would require 20 credits identical to those required in the DTA.

Future Options Regarding the BAS or Bachelors of Technology Degrees:

Except for the faculty in technical fields like nursing, social services and criminal justice, most public four-year faculty and administrators were unfamiliar with the need for and

nature of this degree until this past year. Thus, the current task is to meet with faculty and administrators at all public 4-year institutions to discuss statewide career ladder technology degrees or the more generic applied science degree.

Central Washington University is currently designing and seeking faculty approval for the general education courses required for both a Bachelor's of Applied Science or the Bachelor's of Information Technology to be offered in their 6 campus centers, most co-located at community colleges. It is anticipated that other public four-year institutions will consider similar options built on their unique strengths.

Several other states have adopted the option of a community college baccalaureate degree. These degrees follow the Bachelor's of Technology approach described above. They build upon the strength of a two-year technical program. The same faculty teaching the associate degree courses typically teaches the advanced technical classes.

Selected Readings

Selingo, Jeffrey "Governors Seek Improvement and Innovation From Colleges," Chronicle of Higher Education, March 16, 2001

Truesdell, Joanne, "Experiences of Oregon Community College Not – Intended for Transfer Degree Students and Their Transitions to Baccalaureate Completion," 1996 dissertation, Oregon State University.

Oregon University System, Office of Academic Affairs and The Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, Students Who Transfer Between Oregon Community Colleges and Oregon University System Institutions: What the Data Say, November 2000.

Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, "A Study of the Role of Community Colleges in the Achievement of the Bachelor's Degree in Washington State," 1988. (http://www.sbctc.ctc.edu/Board/Educ/Transfer.htm)

General Baccalaureate Option for Dual Purpose Technical Degree
Washington State

As of June 2001

Baccalaureate Institution	Degree (options)	Web site or contact person
The Evergreen State College	Upside Down Degree Program Nearly a quarter of the students who transfer directly for technical programs transfer to TESC	http://www.evergreen.edu/user/homef.htm Select Admissions, then Transfer Guide Look for Upside Down Degree Program within the Guide

Baccalaureate Institution	Degree (options)	Web site or contact person
Seattle Pacific University	Professional Studies Degree 30 credit minor in one of three areas: Organizational Behavior, Electrical Engineering Or Computer Science.	http://www.spu.edu Look for the New Programs section - click on Professional Studies.
Central Washington University	In process Bachelor's of Applied Science Bachelor's of Technology	Margaret Badgley Assistant to the Provost for University Centers and Community College Relations Central Washington University (509) 665-2600 or 963-1407 BadgleyM@cwu.EDU
Whitworth	Bachelor of Liberal Studies - Upside-down Degree Minimum of 45 semester credit major in Program Management, or Social Services or Humanities	http://www.whitworth.edu/academic/ Select Continuing Studies, then Upside Down Program
University of Phoenix	Bachelor of Science in Management (BSM) Begins this year. Admitted students with an ATA or AAS automatically matriculate as Junior-Level. Degree title includes the name of ATA/AAS emphasis	http://www.phoenix.edu/general/ Select Washington State from the map under Where can I study? Then select Programs, Bachelors of Science in Management

General Baccalaureate Option for Dual Purpose Technical Degree
Other States
As of May 2001

In addition to the general degree, some states have statewide career ladder articulation agreements in specific fields such as Associate Degree RN programs to Bachelor's in Science RN programs. Florida has such statewide articulations agreements in Nursing, Electronics Engineering Tech, Hospitality and Radiography. Southern Illinois University at Carbondale has a wide range of career ladder degrees – see http://www.siu.edu/departments/oar/public_html/oareval/capstone.htm

Baccalaureate Institution	Degree (options)	Web site or contact person
Governor's State University (Illinois – Upper division and Graduate)	Bachelor of Arts in Business and Technology (BTEC)	http://www.govst.edu/users/gcbpa/degreeprog/bustec.htm
South Dakota State University	Bachelors of Applied Technical Science Degree (BATS) Options in: Industrial Sales, Industrial Supervision, General Supervision, General technology, or Applied Agriculture	http://www.sdstate.edu/cp01/http/bats.html
Slippery Rock University, Pennsylvania	Bachelor of Science in Applied Science with a chosen minor.	http://www.sru.edu/depts/admissio/transfer/transfer_admissions.html Look for Applied Science Option

Rogers State University Former 2-year institution in Northeast Oklahoma	Bachelor of Applied Technology (B.T.)	http://www.rsu.edu/academics/degrees/bachelors/atbt/
University of Montana	Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) Degree Not quite all of the technical degrees (50 of the 60 minimum semester credits) apply to the 130 credit bachelors.	http://www.cte.umt.edu/Department/AAS/BAS/default.asp
Great Basin College (Nevada) – this is a community college with authority to offer bachelor's degrees	Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) begins in the Fall Semester of 2001 Students select an area of emphasis. Two areas initially offered: **Management in Technology** **Instrumentation (only for those with technical degrees in electronics)**	http://www.gbcnv.edu/ Select Academic Information, then Degrees Offered, then Bachelor's Degrees
Washburn University (Kansas)	Bachelor of Applied Sciences Degree in Technology Administration (BAS in TA) -	http://www.washburn.edu/PLAN/degrees/bas_ta.html

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